

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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AMCONSUL CAPETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 2588

UNSUMMARY

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

USIAEA ALSO FOR EMBASSY

CARACAS FOR AMB. YOUNG

POUCHED INFO LAGOS NICOSIA OTTAWA STOCKHOLM BRASILIA

E.O. 11652: GDS

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AUG 12, 1977

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6. COMMITTEE ON ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

1. WESTERN FIVE ASSESSMENT OF SWAPO TALKS--

WESTERN FIVE JOINT ASSESSMENT OF THE AUG. 8-11 TALKS WITH SWAPO CONCLUDES THAT FOR A FIRST THOROUGH EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, THESE TALKS CAN BE SAID TO HAVE BEEN USEFUL AND TO A POINT SUCCESSFUL; THE ICE HAS BEEN BROKEN. SWAPO CANNOT BE SAID TO HAVE ABANDONED THEIR RIGID, SIMPLISTIC, UN TAKE-ALL APPROACH, BUT NOW SEEM TO BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER PRACITCAL SOLUTIONS. THE MOST SERIOUS DIFFICULTY THAT REMAINS RELATES TO WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY FORCES. SWAPO, HOWEVER, HAVE AGREED TO THE IDEA OF A CEASEFIRE AND HAVE BEEN DRAWN INTO A DISCUSSION OF PHASED WITHDRAWALS. THE FIVE SUSPECT THAT SWAPO MAY BE PREPARED TO MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS PROVIDED SOUTH AFRICA SHOWS ENOUGH FLEXIBILITY. A GREAT DANGER LIES IN THE FACT THAT THE FIVE HAVE NO CONTROL OVER SWAPO'S PRESENTATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE TALKS TO OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, AND DISTORTION OF THE FACTS OR EXAGGERATION OF THE ISSUES COULD PROVOKE NEGATIVE SOUTH AFRICAN REACTIONS. (CONFIDENTIAL--USUN 2583)

2. NUJOMA ADDRESSES COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA--

SWAPO PRESIDENT NUJOMA GAVE AN ACCOUNT OF SWAPO'S TALKS WITH THE WESTERN FIVE TO THE UN COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA. HE REPORTEDLY SPOKE WELL OF THE INITIATIVE OF THE FIVE, BUT ALSO REITERATED SWAPO'S LEGAL POSITION ON THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UN
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IN NAMIBIA. HE REAFFIRMED THE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, INDICATED SWAPO HAD NO OPTION BUT CONTINUE TO INTENSIFY THE STRUGGLE, AND STATED--DESPITE ASSURANCES TO THE FIVE NOT TO PUBLICLY DISCUSS SUBSTANCE OF TALKS-- THAT SWAPO WAS INSISTING THAT ALL SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS BE OUT OF THE TERRITORY BEFORE THE START OF POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING AND THAT THERE MUST BE A UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN NAMIBIA TO ENFORCE A CEASEFIRE. (CONFIDENTIAL --USUN 2580)

3. LAGOS ANTI-APARTHEID CONFERENCE--

DURING EC-9 DISCUSSION OF DRAFT DECLARATION FOR LAGOS CONFERENCE MOST CRITICAL VIEWS WERE EXPRESSED BY UK, FRANCE AND FRG, ACCORDING TO FRG MISOFF. THE NINE DECIDED TO SEND A WRITTEN COMMUNIQUE TO NIGERIAN AMB HARRIMAN RECOMMENDING THREE CHANGES TO THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON WHICH ALL NINE AGREED AND INDICATING THAT SOME INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF EC-9 OBJECT TO OTHER SPECIFIC POINTS ON WHICH THEY MAY WISH TO APPROACH THE CONFERENCE PRESIDENCY. IN RESPONSE TO THE PRESENTATION, HARRIMAN SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER THE PROPOSED CHANGES CARE-

FULLY BUT THE NINE MUST RECOGNIZE HE IS RECEIVING
PRESSURE IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM OTHERS.
(CONFIDENTIAL--USUN 2587)

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4. APARTHEID--

CHAIRMAN HARRIMAN (NIGERIA), OF THE COMITE
AGAINST APARTHEID, BEFORE LEAVING NEWYORK FOR LONDON
FOR CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO THE LAGOS WORLD CONFERENCE
AGAINST APARTHEID, ISSUED AN APPEAL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE TRUST FUND FOR PUBLICITY AGAINST APARTHEID AND
RELEASED TO THE PRESS A STATEMENT APPEALING TO THE US
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TENNIS ASSOCIATION TO "END ALL ITS LINKS WITH THE RACIST
SPORT IN SOUTH AFRICA".
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 2588

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5. COMMITTEE ON TAKING OF HOSTAGES--

WEO'S DISCUSSED TACTICS IN ANTICIPATION OF PRO-
CEDURAL FIGHT OVER COURSE OF WORK FOLLOWING GENERAL
DEBATE IN COMITE ON TAKING OF HOSTAGES. US AND UK
STRONGLY URGED HESITANT ACTING CHAIRMAN BRACKLO (FRG)
TO BEGIN MEETING BY SAYING IT HAD BEEN DECIDED AT MORN-
ING SESSION TO BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF STATE PROPOSALS
AND THEN CALL ON FRG AMBASSADOR TO EXPLAIN FRG DRAFT IN
DETAIL. BRACKLO BEGAN MEETING AS INDICATED, AND WAS NOT
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CHALLENGED. (CONFIDENTIAL--USUN 2584, 2585)

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THE COMITE AUG. 11 (AFTERNOON) BEGAN DISCUSSION
OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES INVOLVED IN DRAFTING CONVENTION
AGAINST TAKING OF HOSTAGES. AT THAT MEETING, AND IN THE
MORNING AUG. 12, AMENDMENTS TO THE FRG DRAFT CONVENTION
WERE OFFERED BY ALGERIA, TANZANIA, LESOTHO AND MEXICO.
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE MEXICAN PROPOSAL (INCLUSION
OF CLAUSE RE RIGHT OF ASYLUM), ALL RELATED TO THE RIGHTS
OF THOSE INVOLVED IN STRUGGLES FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION.
VON WECHMAR (FRG) DESCRIBED PROVISIONS OF HIS DRAFT AND
HOPED THAT HIS REMARKS WOULD HELP ALLAY THE ANXIETIES
OF SOME DELEGATIONS. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON WHETHER IN
ANY PROPOSED CONVENTION, THE ACT OF TAKING HOSTAGES
SHOULD BE SEPARATED FROM THE MOTIVE FOR THE ACT AND ON
THE NECESSITY FOR INCLUDING AN ARTICLE AFFIRMING THE
RIGHT OF STATES TO GRANT ASYLUM. QUESTIONS RELATING TO
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WERE RAISED BY ALGERIA, LESOTHO
AND TANZANIA IN PARTICULAR.

TANZANIA/LESOTHO PROPOSAL WOULD EXCLUDE ACTS BY
NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE UN OR
OTHER REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, AND IT WAS SUPPORTED BY
MEXICO, GUINEA AND BYELORUSSIA. THE US OPPOSED IT,
AND CANADA STATED IT WAS INCONSISTENT WITH CANADIAN
LAW. NETHERLANDS WAS INTERESTED IN ADDRESSING CONCERN
TO TREATMENT OF HOSTAGES THEMSELVES, AND STATED SOME
MEANS SHOULD BE INTOLERABLE TO ALL, REGARDLESS OF THEIR

PURPOSES.

ROSENSTOCK (US) STATED THAT THE FRG DRAFT CORRECTLY
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DID NOT DISTINGUISH THE ACT FROM THE MOTIVE, A VIEW WITH WHICH NIGERIA DISAGREED. USDEL, ROSENSTOCK CONTINUED, COULD NOT ACCEPT THE LESOTHO/TANZANIA CHANGE WHICH PROVIDED THAT CAUSES OF "SUFFICIENT POPULARITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY" WOULD BE PERMITTED TO EMPLOY ANY MEANS. HE OPPOSED A SPECIFIC CLAUSE ON ASYLUM INASMUCH AS IT MIGHT IMPLY THAT RIGHT TO GRANT ASYLUM HAD BEEN ABDICATED BY THE SIGNATORIES OF OTHER CONVENTIONS. VENEZUELA THOUGHT THE CONVENTION SHOULD INCLUDE RIGHT OF ASYLUM, AND CHILE AND NICARAGUA THOUGHT IT WAS UNNECESSARY. FRANCE SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF THE FRG DRAFT AND HAD VERY SPECIFIC RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE AMENDMENTS OF LESOTHO, TANZANIA AND ALGERIA. NETHERLANDS SUGGESTED AN INVENTORY OF ISSUES MIGHT HELP ORGANIZE THE DEBATE.

6. COMMITTEE ON ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION--

AUG. 12, THE COMMITTEE DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE THAT THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD PREPARE A STUDY ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AS PART OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE 1978 WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. THE STUDY WOULD BE PREPARED BY A SPECIAL CONSULTANT ON THE BASIS OF A SET OF GENERAL GUIDELINES AND WOULD INCLUDE A REVIEW OF THE COMITE'S WORK, DESCRIPTION F PROGRESS TOWARD ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CONVENTION ON ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, AND CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

AUG. 10, IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE 1978 CONFERENCE, COMITE MEMBERS WERE CRITICAL OF THE PRESS COVERAGE GIVEN BY THE UN OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION TO ITS MEETINGS. CHAIRMAN KAPTEYN, NETHERLANDS EXPERT, SAID HE WOULD ASI THE SYG'S REPRESENTATIVE TO CONVEY TO THE COMITE'S CONCERN ABOUT OBJECTIVITY IN THE OPI PRESS RELEASES AND TO ASK
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FOR AN EXPLANATION.

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